

CHARLIE BAKER
Governor



KARYN POLITO
Lt. Governor

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CONTACT
William Pitman
william.pitman@state.ma.us



**Governor Baker, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School
Celebrate Advanced Manufacturing Program**



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HAVERHILL – Governor Charlie Baker today visited Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School today to tour the school's new Advanced Manufacturing program, created in part with a nearly \$500,000 Skills Capital grant the school received from the Baker-Polito Administration last year.

More than 1,200 students, teachers, staff and administrators greeted Governor Baker and Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Rosalin Acosta with a roaring reception in the school gym before the Governor and Secretary headed off to see the new Advanced Manufacturing shop.

Whittier Tech received a \$495,000 Skills Capital grant in FY'17 that the school used to transform its former machine and tool program into an Advanced Manufacturing program to better support regional workforce needs. The high school partnered with Northern Essex Community College, and with the Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium for evening adult programs.

Created last year, the Administration awards Skills Capital Grants to educational institutions that demonstrate partnerships with industry, as well as align curriculum and credentials with businesses' demand, in order to maximize hiring opportunities in each region of the state. The goal of the grants is to update capital equipment at educational institutions that create career pathways for young people and adults, which meet the demand of employers in each region.

The Baker-Polito Administration has awarded more than \$26.4 million in Skills Capital Grants to 67 different institutions. The Administration will announce a new round of grants, worth more than \$10 million, early next month. As part of our Economic Development bill, the Administration plans to award a total of \$45 million.

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